Friday, February 17, 2006
7:30 pm. St. Basil's Church

University of Toronto
Faculty of Music
presents

"Vox Femina"

University Women's Chorus and Cantores Celestes
Robert Cooper C.M. and Kelly Galbraith, conductors

PROGRAM

Part One

Guillaume Dufay	Gloria ad modum tubae (Trumpet Gloria)
David MacIntyre	Ave Maria
	Massed Choirs
Henry Purcell	From Come Ye Sons of Art Come Ye Sons of Art Sound the Trumpet These are the sacred charms
Stephen Hatfield	Bonny Wood Green
Karl Jenkins	'Cantus iteratus' from 'Adiemus' *Laura Webster, percussion*
Traditional Appalachian	Will the Circle Be Unbroken *Jennifer Harewood, soloist*
	Cantores Celestes, Kelly Galbraith, conductor
Gustav Holst (1874-1934)	Choral Hymns from the Rig Veda Hymn to the Dawn Hymn to the Waters Hymn to Vena (the Sun rising through the mist)
	Massed Choirs

Part Two

Stephen Hatfield	Chant for a Long Day
R Murray Schafer	Snowforms
	Massed Choirs

Ramona Luengen	Celebremus
Laura Silberberg	Remember
Eleanor Daley (b. 1955)	Rose Trilogy The Lost Rose A White Rose A Red, Red, Rose
Nathan Christensen	How Do I Love Thee
	University of Toronto Women's Chorus, Robert Cooper, conductor
Paul Halley (b. 1952)	Untraveled Worlds
	Massed Choirs

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PROGRAM NOTES

TRUMPET GLORIA
Guillaume Dufay

Based on Gregorian chant, Dufay's four part Gloria ad modum tubae, places two choirs in canon, with Choir I singing the complete Gloria text in canon while Choir II sings repeated trumpet-like phrases to the text Gloria in Excelsis Deo. This brilliant contrast between the lyric chant and fanfare-like interjections results in a fantasia of spiritual joy that fascinates audiences today as much as it transported the faithful of medieval times.

AVE MARIA (1994)
David MacIntyre*

Vancouver composer David MacIntyre's setting of Ave Maria was composed for the Elektra Women's Choir in 1994, in honour of the 35th Anniversary celebration of the Canadian Music Centre. MacIntyre's unusual musical approach to the text is meant to portray a phenomenon that occurred during Bosnia Herzegovina's bloody civil war where small groups of children were reported to have run to the nearby hills to see visions of he

Virgin Mary. The anticipatory nature and celebration of those daily visitations are successfully reflected through driving, ecstatic rhythmns, and repetitive harmonies punctuated with breathless, sudden silences.

CHORAL HYMNS FROM THE RIG VEDA
Gustav Holst

Intrigued by both astrology and mysticism, Holst studied Hindu philosophy, and taught himself Sanskrit in order to translate from the Ramayana, Mahabharata, and Rig Veda. He composed several works based on these ancient Indian scriptures, among them the chamber opera Savitri (1908), based on a tale from the Mahabharata, and his Hymns from the Rig Veda (1909).

The Rig Veda is a group of poems that were first sung and recited for hundreds of years and then written down in Sanskrit about 1000 BC. It is one of the most sacred texts of Hinduism

During Holst's lifetime the Choral Hymns from the Rig Veda were widely and frequently performed: now they are virtually unknown except among adventuresome choirs for women.

CHANT FOR A NEW DAY (1999)
Stephen Hatfield*

Inspired by two monophonic chants for women from both Pakistan (Islamic) and the Hebrides (Gaelic), Chant for a New Day evokes the images of physical and spiritual survival common to many cultures as well as images of femininity and womanhood that are also shared by peoples from around the world.

SNOWFORMS (1983)
R. Murray Schafer*

Snowforms is based on Inuit words in a graphic notation that suggests a continuous, subtle and ever changing landscape of snow. The singer's task is to sing the shape of the snowforms using glissando, portamento and seamless unisons to give the listener a sense of the timelessness, majesty and awe one feels when seeing the never ending horizon of snow.

CELEBREMUS (1977)
Ramona Luengen*

Using a text taken from the 13th century manuscript Carmina Burana (a rich medieval anthology of Monastic hymns and songs) Celebremus attempts to recapture both the age and festive nature of the text through the use of dance-like rhythms common to medieval music, the hint of chant and exuberant piano figurations.

ROSE TRILOGY (2002)
Eleanor Daley*

Commissioned by the Oriana Women's Choir of Toronto for their 30th Anniversary, Rose Trilogy is a thoughtful contemplation on the imagery of the rose based on poems by Robert Burns (1759-1796) and John Boyle O'Reilly (1844-1890) as well as the anonymous "Green Willow." Rose Trilogy encompasses an impressive range of styles and moods, running from the upbeat and folk-like "O my Luve's like A Red, Red Rose" to the passionate and urgent "White Rose" ("...the red rose is a falcon, and the white rose is a dove") to the forceful and grim "The Lost Rose" bemoaning the pain of false love.

HOW DO I LOVE THEE?
Nathan Christensen

The familiar and iconic Elizabeth Barrett Browning poem in a new and upbeat choral guise!

UNTRAVELED WORLDS
Paul Halley

Taken from Alfred Lord Tennyson's Ulysses, Untraveled Worlds is a poem of grand scope exhorting one to push beyond the boundaries of human thought, explore beyond the sunset and the stars and live "to strive, to seek, and not to yield." Halley aptly conveys this soaring aspiration in the rhythmic energy, fresh harmonic colours and vital vocal drive that propels this work to its triumphant close.

* Canadian Composer

Biographies

One of Canada's leading choral conductors, **Robert Cooper, C.M.,** began his career under the tutelage of Helmuth Rilling and Robert Shaw. He is currently the Artistic Director of the *Orpheus Choir of Toronto*, *Chorus Niagara*, the *Opera in Concert Chorus,* and is a teaching member of the Choral Department, Faculty of Music, University of Toronto. As a superb choral trainer and conductor, Mr. Cooper also provided strong artistic leadership to the *Toronto Mendelssohn Youth Choir* for 22 successful years, influencing over 2000 young adult singers. Many of those singers have gone on to solo careers, while others are adding their own voices to various choirs across Canada.

He enjoys a distinguished career as a guest conductor and clinician working with many of Canada's leading choral organizations and provincial choral federations. He has had the honour of conducting the *National Youth Choir* of Canada and made his Carnegie Hall debut in 1997 for a Celebration of Canadian Choral Music. He recently conducted concerts with Symphony Nova Scotia and the London Symphony, as well as conducting Newfoundland's *Festival 500* and productions for Toronto Operetta Theatre. In addition to his work with choirs, Robert Cooper has been involved with the presentation of more than 80 operas and has been a frequent guest conductor with opera companies across Canada. This October Mr. Cooper adjudicated the international choral competition *Let the People Sing* in London, England. He has also recorded CD's of both opera and choral music and provided choral backup for films and Stratford Festival productions.

Robert Cooper has served as President of both the Ontario Choral Federation and the Association of Canadian Choral Conductors and is on the Board of Directors of Chorus America. To complete the circle, Mr. Cooper brings fine choral music to all of Canada as Executive Producer, Opera and Choral Music, for CBC Radio Two. In June 2003 Robert Cooper received an Honorary Doctorate degree from Brock University for his significant contribution to the Canadian choral community. Also in the same year, he was made a Member of the Order of Canada.

Cantores Celestes was founded in 1989. The ensemble began as a group of eight women who wanted to sing interesting thematic choral programs and develop concerts that involved participation from other art forms. These concerts have included exhibits from local visual artists, readings from Toronto authors, dramatic presentations, period costumes and a variety of multimedia presentations.

The members of Cantores Celestes believe in giving back to the community and always donate some of the proceeds of their concerts to local charities or perform at fund-raising events. Cantores Celestes does not rely on government grants to subsidize its activities. Audience attendance and corporate sponsors are truly responsible for the continuing success of this highly trained

and enthusiastic choir. Cantores Celestes has appeared on both CBC Radio I and Radio II, as well as the CBC commercially-released video Clyde Gilmour, a Celebration in Words and Music. Cantores Celestes was one of the invited choirs to participate in Newfoundland's Festival 500 a festival that brings choirs together from around the world. They have recorded music for three films and have released three CDs: WASSAIL!, Bright Shining as the Sun and Love's Pure Light. They will be releasing their 4th recording witht eh Foggy Hogtown Boys this fall. Their Spring concert 'Adiemus' is April 29. 2006 8:00 pm at Runnymede United Church.

Kelly Galbraith is the founder and director of Cantores Celestes Women's Choir in Toronto. Kelly is currently a freelance music producer. She is the music director of St. Philip's Anglican Church, the conductor of the Manulife Financial Choir and a programmer for CBC Classical Music Galaxie channels. She is currently working on a special project for CBC Sirius Radio - A Satellite Service for CBC Radio One. She also develops compilation recordings for CBC Records. Kelly was the Senior Producer for the classical music program 'Music & Company' on CBC Radio Two. She was a producer for 'Choral Concert' and 'Saturday Afternoon at the Opera'. She also enjoys taking her dogs Lucy and Porter to Runnymede Chronic Care Hospital for pet therapy with the patients.

Pianist **Ellen Meyer** graduated with a Bachelor of Music degree in piano performance from the University of Toronto, where her teachers were Jane Coop and Pierre Souvairan. Since then she has performed as soloist, chamber musician and accompanist throughout Canada, in the USA and in Germany. Ellen performs with the Riverdale Ensemble and Ossia (on historical keyboards). She also works with the Canadian Sinfonietta . Her recordings credits include three CDs with Cantores Celestes, as well as the Riverdale Ensemble, Ossia and the Boukum Trio and soundtracks for feature film and television documentaries.

University Women's Chorus

Soprano
Natalie Basta
Julia Bentley
Justine Butkovich
Emily Ding
Sarah Gibbons
Jocelyn Howard
Nicole Hulme
Maria Kaushansky
Grace Kim
Laura Kim
Kay Kong
Chelsea Laird
Melanie Lamoureux
Joanne Leung
Hannah McFarlane
Cecelia McKibbon
Victoria Medieros
Opani Mudalige
Charlotte Mundy
Megan Prashad
Angie Roides
Lisa Schulte
Laura Silberberg
Shannon Teemull
Shannon Thomson
Tamara Vaughan
Aviva Wilks
Justine Wong
Christine Yen
Ilana Zarankin

Alto
Sachi Adachi
Audrey Bild
Rebecca Daniels
Larissa Doherty
Natalie Gajewski
Emma Heath-Engel
Zishan Huang
Chelsea Hughes
Maria Jung
Diana Kim
Danielle Kolenko
Candice Leung
Jennifer Li
Sarah Nicol
Ameera Nimjee
Karyn Raymond
Moksha Serrano
Megan Shin
Jennifer Szeto
Amy Valyear
Bodgana Verbenko
Justine Wong
Kelly Woodley
Yana Zhalezniakova
Sophie Zhang

Cantores Celestes

Soprano 1
Leanne Baldwin
Cathy Boyd-Withers
Antonietta Cerroni
Marianna Caleca
Nan Grant
Fiona Mason
Gail McIndoe
Kylene Mellor
Catherine Roe
Naomi Shin
Elisa Vicencio

Soprano 2
Betty Chandler
Leigh Cole
Evelyne Dufau
Lauren Fehlings
Amanda Grant
Sue Gratton
Jennifer Harewood
Jacqueline Hayden
Patricia Longlade
Shauna Rae
Silvia Remkins
Alanna Scott

Alto 1
Janice Bobbie
Anne Campbell Smith
Julie Fay
Debbie Gonsalves
Colleen Kidd
Midori Koga
Kathryn Landon
Marlène Marwah
Gayle McNeish
Michelle Monk
Monica Parfitt
Betty Lynch Powers
Teresa Randall

Alto 2
Paula Ackerley
Mary Ann Archer
Stephanie Gower
Liz Martin
Hilary McCrimmon
Gillian Nichol
Irene Ott
Marilyn Smith
Jean Ann Stewart
Laura Webster

Upcoming concerts featuring U of T Choirs

CHORAL MUSIC OF THE AMERICAS
Wednesday, March 8
Lori-Anne Dolloff and Brainerd Blyden-Taylor conduct the Master Chorale in contemporary and world musics, with guests, the High Park Choir, Zimifira Poloz, conductor
7:30 pm. Victoria College Chapel. $13($7 senior/student)

SINGING AND DRUMMING GALA CONCERT
Saturday, March 25
Doreen Rao conducts the MacMillan Singers with NEXUS
7:30 pm. MacMillan Theatre. $13($7 senior/student)

BRAHMS: EIN DEUTSCHES REQUIEM
Wednesday, April 12
MacMillan Singers, Women's Chorus and Master Chorus join the University of Toronto Symphony Orchestra conducted by Raffi Armenian.
7:30 pm. MacMillan Theatre. $13($7 senior/student)

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Upcoming concerts by Cantores Celestes

On Saturday, April 29, 2006 at 8:00 p.m. Cantores Celestes Women's Choir presents two major choral works. Michael Haydn's 'Mass of the Innocents' and WorldMusic/New Age composer Karl Jenkin's 'Adiemus - Songs of Sanctuary'. Cantores Celestes will be joined by the best musicians in Toronto - Andy Morris and Friends on percussion, The Emperor String Quartet, Jurgen Petrenko, organ, Ellen Meyer, piano, Andrea Budgey, recorder, Janet Anderson and Bardhyl Gjevori on french horn with Director Kelly Galbraith. A $1,000.00 donation will be made to FREE THE CHILDREN. This donation in partnership with Humberside Collegiate are building a school in Sierra Leone. ADMISSION: $20.00
Contact: Kelly Galbraith, 416 236 1522 www.cantorescelestes.com

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Please contact Marilyn Brown at 416-946-3145 if you would like to learn more about this program.